

Message Text

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53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 071130Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3942

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 23507

EXDIS

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM TODD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: OTRA, EAID, TH

SUBJECT: THAI SITREP OR WOULD ROME HAVE BURNED HAD NERO
LOST HIS FIDDLE

REF: A) BANGKOK 23189; B) BANGKOK 23076 P062319Z;

C) STATE 133610, 247618, BANGKOK 22164

1. EXACT BASE CLOSURE DATES. I BELIEVE IT WOULD
BE MOST HELPFUL FOR ALL CONCERNED IF DECISION WERE
TAKEN TO ALLOW AMBASSADOR TO GIVE RTG EXACT DATES FOR
CLOSING BASES AS PROPOSED REF A AT NOV. 11 MEETING.
WHILE WE ALL KNOW THEY WILL NOT BE STRICTLY AD-
HERRED TO, SUCH PRECISION WILL ALLOW INVOLVED U.S.
MILITARY UNITS TO IMPLEMENT CLOSURE PROCEDURES IN AN
ORDERLY AND EXPEDITIOUS FASHION THUS MAXIMIZING
OUR ABILITY TO RECLAIM MATERIALS AND AT SAME TIME
PRESERVE FLEXIBILITY RE RTG REQUESTS.

BESIDES, ITS JUST GOOD MANAGEMENT.

2. T-28S. OTHER THAN EMPLOYING NORMAL BUSINESS
PRACTICE OF STARTING FIRE OR FLOOD, I RECOMMEND THIS
ISSUE BE RESOLVED IN FOLLOWING MANNER:

A. NO FUNDS BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THAI-AM FACILITY

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BEYOND 12/31/75.

B. NO FURTHER MAINTENANCE BE PERFORMED ON LAO BIRDS
ALLOWING NATURE TO TAKE ITS COURSE.

AM CONVINCED WHITEHOUSE CORRECT ON THIS ISSUE
(NO REMOVAL) AS IS CINCPAC (WRONG TO PASS ASSETS TO
HOSTILE GOVERNMENTS). ABOVE SUGGESTION MEETS BOTH
REQUIREMENTS AND SAVES USG BETTER THAN \$600,000
IN EXPENSES. EXCELLENT TIME TO FOLLOW OLD SANSKRIT
WRITING QUOTE FRUGALNESS IS NEXT TO GODLINESS. UNQUOTE.

3. AIT. SUGGEST POSITIVE APPROACH TO THIS SITUATION
BE TAKEN. WHILE I AM FULLY COGNIZANT OF POTENTIAL
514 PROBLEM, TM ATTEMPT TO REMOVE 23,000 PLUS ST OF ORDNANCE
IN ADDITION TO EVERYTHING ELSE YOU WANT OUT WOULD RESULT
IN CHAOS. WHAT WE BUY HERE IN HARD TERMS IS TIME AND IMPROVED
BASIS FOR FUTURE RELATIONS WITH THAI, PENDING RESOLUTION OF
LEGAL PROBLEMS.

IF PROGRESS REPRESENTED BY STATE 247618 OVER STATE 133610
IS TRUE MEASURE OF 132 DAYS OF EFFORT ON PART OF DOD LAWYERS,
SUGGEST THIS IS AREA NEW SECRETARY COULD CONCENTRATE ON FOR
IMPROVING DEPARTMENT'S IMAGE.

4. HAVING WONDERFUL TIME (SEE PHOTO IN NEWSLETTER).
WISH YOU WERE HERE.
WHITEHOUSE

NOTE: NODIS CAPTION DELETED, HANDLED AS EXDIS
PER STATE 264253, 11/7/75

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